

Nonpublic School Advisory Committee Agenda
February 11, 2014
Grimes State Office Building – State Board Room
1:00 p.m.

Present - Mary Delagardelle, Joanne Tubbs, Brad Niebling, Amy Williamson, Barbara Ohlund, Michelle Hosp, Mike Cormack, Connor Hood, Jeff Henderson, Jerry Deegan, Lee Morrison, Julie Delaney, Beth Happe, Merilee Sump, Nicole Proesch, Phil Wise, Joanne Thompson, Luvern Gubbels, Lee Morrison

Private Schools Licensure – Joanne Tubbs led the discussion on the Board of Educational Examiners (BoEE) initiatives. Teach Iowa was reviewed. Local training through the AEAs is ongoing. The BoEE is working on ways to enhance the program to assist in required staff reporting. Joanne discussed some licensing/reporting issues related to teachers not properly licensed who are left off BEDS. The committee discussed the role of President in Catholic Schools. Joanne will work with Dan Ryan, Lee Morrison, and Luvern Gubbels to develop strategies to deal with this position. The BoEE is working to assist teachers new to Iowa to complete the PRAXIS test.

Iowa Core – Brad Niebling briefly reviewed the areas of the Iowa Core with the emphasis on Literacy and Math. Iowa has received a Rural States grant as part of the statewide system to provide support for the implementation of the Iowa Core. The Department is also working with a program called the Iowa Core Resources Project to help assist with the resources needed to help schools implement locally. The committee discussed the efforts to continue educating Iowans on the Iowa Core.

Hours vs. Days Reporting on BEDs - Amy Williamson explained that Spring BEDS is being revised to reflect the hours/days option. Schools will need to choose which they are choosing at the time they fill it out. The committee asked the Department to consider the option to make up missed days by expanding the length of the day for the 2013-2014 school year. It is under advisement by the Department team.

Early Literacy Tools and Resources - Barbara Ohlund reviewed the implementation of the Early Literacy program, which is open to nonpublic schools as well. Support is available for the program for schools choosing to participate. This includes access to all tools, training, and technical support.

Iowa Reading Research Center - Michelle Hosp explained the background surrounding the creation of the Iowa Reading Research Center (IRRC), which is housed at Grant Wood AEA. There is an advisory committee to support their work. Their emphasis is K-3 as they begin rolling programs out. The IRRC is working to create several programs to collect data and to gather resources to assist teachers. The IRRC will also develop professional development processes to support ongoing MTSS training. The IRRC will also develop the guidelines for intensive summer reading camps.

Legislative Update/Progress – Phil and Mike updated the group on the legislative session. Instructional Time bill is underway to clean up the language from the Ed Reform bill passed in the last session. House Education Committee has passed the Department Instructional Time bill. It will go to the floor for debate. Senate passed a similar bill without the waiver language. The first funnel deadline is February 21. The Department is also assisting on anti-bullying and a broadband expansion for all Iowans. There is also work on a Veterans program to encourage Veterans to locate in Iowa. The BoEE is working on legislation to allow local schools to hire coaches with a temporary license. The other bill being debated is the creation of list of those who have resigned or dismissed for ethical violations.

Educational Assessment Update – There is a task force in place that is looking at assessment options moving forward. They are meeting to discuss options and the best way to proceed with a quality assessment. The task force has developed a set of criteria to guide them in their evaluation of all available assessments. They are to present a report to the legislature in 2015.

Future Meeting Dates:

May 13, 2014 – Grimes State Office Building, State Board Room